## What is claimed is:

1. A method for establishing a communication path in a data-driven communication system, comprising:

defining a first relationship between a first layer agent and a second layer agent, and a second relationship between the second layer agent and a third layer agent;

establishing, according to rules of the first relationship, a first communication link between the first layer agent and the second layer agent; and

establishing, according to rules of the second relationship, a second communication link between the second layer agent and the third layer agent, the first and second communication links establishing a communication path.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first layer agent is a destination agent, the second layer agent is a node agent, and the third layer agent is a device agent.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein defining the first and second relationship includes associating at least one policy with each of the relationships to define its rules.
- 4. The method of claim 3, wherein associating the at least one policy includes associating a policy chain.
- 5. The method of claim 3, wherein associating at least one policy includes associating a branched policy chain.
- 6. The method of claim 4, wherein establishing the communication path includes providing system parameters to the at least one policy.
- 7. The method of claim 1, wherein establishing the communication path includes determining a system time.
- 8. The method of claim 1, wherein establishing the communication path includes determining a system date.

- 9. The method of claim 8, wherein establishing the communication path includes determining a day of week.
- 10. A data driven communication system, comprising:
  - a first layer agent;
- a second layer agent having a first relationship to the first layer agent for establishing a first communication link therebetween in response to data provided to the first layer agent; and
- a third layer agent having a second relationship to the second layer agent for establishing a second communication link therebetween in response to data provided by the second layer agent.
- 11. The communication system of claim 10, wherein the first layer agent is a device agent, the second layer agent is a node agent, and the third layer agent is a destination agent.
- 12. The communication system of claim 10, wherein policies define the first and second relationships.
- 13. The communication system of claim 10, wherein policy chains define the first and second relationships.
- 14. The communication system of claim\10, wherein the first and second communication links form a communication path of a half call
- 15. The communication system of claim 14, further comprising at least one system feature for modifying the communication path.
- 16. The communication system of claim 15, wherein the at least one system feature is an in-call feature.
- 17. The communication system of claim 15, wherein the at least one system feature is a data modifying feature.

- 18. The communication system of claim 15, wherein the at least one system feature is an advanced programmable system feature.
- 19. The communication system of claim 10, wherein the first, second and third layer agents are implemented as objects.
- 20. The communication system of claim 10, further comprising a database having entries corresponding to the first, second and third layer agents.
- 21. The communication system of claim 20, wherein the database comprises tables corresponding respectively to the first, second and third layer agents.
- 22. The communication system of claim 21, wherein the database further comprises a table corresponding to the policies.
- 23. The communication system of claim 22, including means for configuring the system through the database upon startup.
- 24. The communication system of claim 22, including means for reconfiguring the system through the database.
- 25. The communication system of claim 20, further including a user interface for entering changes to the database.
- 26. The communication system of claim 25, wherein the user interface is a graphical user interface for displaying modifiable icons, representing agents and policies, and modifiable interconnections between them, for facilitating modification of the database.
- 27. The communication system of claim 15, wherein the at least one advanced programmable system feature is triggered by a tone given for a reason.

- 28. The communication system of claim 27, further comprising a trigger table for determining which of the at least one advanced programmable system features is triggered.
- 29. The communication system of claim 28, wherein the trigger table points to a policy chain.
- 30. The communication system of claim of claim 29, wherein the policy chain determines the advanced programmable system feature to be triggered.
- 31. The communication system of claim 10, wherein a trigger table is associated to an agent.
- 32. The communication system of claim 20, wherein the database includes trigger tables.
- 33. The communication system of claim 20, wherein the database includes advanced programmable system feature definitions.
- 34. The communication system of claim 15, wherein the at least one system feature is triggered by an event in a state.
- 35. The communication system of claim 34, further comprising a trigger table for determining which of the at least one system features is triggered.
- 36. The communication system of claim 35, wherein the trigger table points to a policy chain.
- 37. The communication system of claim of claim 37, wherein the policy chain determines the at least one system feature to be triggered.